

Deputy Chief, Plans and Policy Staff

26 March 1949

Chief, Plans and Policy Staff

Petroleum Intelligence.

1. The DAD/CRE has directed the Plans and Policy Staff to prepare an analysis of the problem of intelligence production in the field of petroleum intelligence.

2. In order to carry out this directive, I would like you to establish a task force under your direction, consisting of representatives from the Programs Division and the Planning Division.

3. As I see it, the problem consists of the following:

a. The determination of what kinds of petroleum intelligence should be produced.

b. The determination of what agencies are ~~personally~~ engaged in the production of what kinds of petroleum intelligence.

c. The determination of what agencies have capabilities and responsibilities for petroleum intelligence production which could be utilized as part of an interdepartmental task force for the production of certain kinds or types of petroleum intelligence.

d. The extent of overlap or duplication in both responsibility on the one hand, and production effort on the other, which now exists among the agencies engaged in this field.

e. The formulation of a statement of CIA responsibility in connection with petroleum intelligence production to include provision for CIA's role as the coordinator of an interdepartmental estimate as well as the production of "national" intelligence estimates in this field.

f. The formulation of a plan for interdepartmental action which will result in effective treatment of petroleum intelligence to meet the needs of such agencies as the National Security Council, Army Navy Petroleum Board, National Security Resources Board, Joint Chiefs of Staff and such other policy formulation, strategy planning and operational agencies as may be determined as authorized recipients of such intelligence.

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4. The first step of your task force will be the formulation of a plan of attack to this problem along the lines indicated in paragraph 3 above. In this respect, I wish you to regard paragraph 3 as a guide and not as a definitive or limiting statement of the problem. Should you and your task force be able to prepare a more complete and effective statement of the problem, then such action should be regarded as part of this assignment.

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5. Once you have completed an analysis and statement of the problem, I wish to be advised in order that I may call a meeting consisting of [REDACTED] for the purpose of discussing ways and means of implementation.

6. The deadline for completion of the plan is established at 1400 hours, 30 March 1949.

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[REDACTED]

The mission of CIA relative to Petroleum Intelligence is envisioned to be:

To correlate and evaluate petroleum intelligence relating to the formulation of national policy and to the national security, and to provide for the appropriate dissemination of such intelligence within the government using where appropriate existing agencies and facilities.

1. What governmental agencies are presently engaged in the collecting of petroleum intelligence information?
2. What kind of petroleum intelligence is each agency producing?
3. What are the responsibilities of each agency, both internal and external, in the production of petroleum intelligence information?
4. What medium or mode of exchange of petroleum intelligence-information is employed and to what extent, between responsible agencies?
5. What organized formal groups or committees in the government are concerned or involved in the collection, evaluation, production or dissemination of petroleum intelligence information/intelligence?
6. What are the missions and the responsibilities of the organized groups or committees concerned with petroleum?
7. What factors or phases of national intelligence are lacking, considering the assigned mission of the various agencies, groups, and committees and the assigned mission of CIA relative to national intelligence?
8. What steps has CIA taken to perform correlating and evaluating functions?

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9. What steps has the C/NC taken to correlate, evaluate, produce and disseminate petroleum intelligence?
10. How best may the agencies within the framework of the government be employed to produce national intelligence regarding petroleum?
11. What are the deficiencies in current, staff and basic intelligence which CIA should undertake to eliminate in order to provide adequate coverage of petroleum intelligence for the NSC etc.